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Nason

Ode performed in the Senate House at Cambridge,
July 1, 1749

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FREDERIC THOMAS BLANCHARD
ENDOWMENT FUND

O D E
FOR
M U S I C.

Performed in the
SENATE-HOUSE at CAMBRIDGE

July 1, 1749.

O D E

Performed in the

SENATE-HOUSE at CAMBRIDGE

July 1, 1749.

AT THE

Installation of His GRACE

Thomas Holles Duke of Newcastle

CHANCELLOR of the University.

—— canit errantem Permessi ad flumina Gallum

Aonas in Montes ut duxerit una sororum

Utque viro Phæbi chorus assurrexerit omnis.

VIRGIL.

By Mr. *MASON*,

FELLOW of PEMBROKE-HALL.

Set to Music by

Mr. *BOYCE*, Composer to His MAJESTY.

CAMBRIDGE,

Printed by J. BENTHAM, Printer to the University;

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in *Pall-Mall, London.*

M.DCC.XLIX.

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Mod

O D E

FOR

M U S I C.

I.

HERE all thy active fires diffuse,
Thou genuin *British* Muse;

Recitative.

Hither descend from yonder orient sky,
Cloth'd in thy heav'n-wove robe of harmony.

Come, imperial queen of song;
Come with all that free-born grace,
Which lifts thee from the servile throng,

Air 1.

Who meanly mimic thy majestic pace;
That glance of dignity divine,
Which speaks thee of celestial line;
Proclaims thee inmate of the sky,
Daughter of Jove and Liberty.

* 2

The

II.

Recitative.

'The elevated soul, who feels
 Thy awful impulse, walks the fragrant ways
 Of honest unpolluted praise :
 He with impartial justice deals
 The blooming chaplets of immortal lays :
 He flies above ambition's low career ;
 And nobly thron'd in Truth's meridian sphere,
 Thence, with a bold and heav'n-directed aim,
 Full on fair Virtue's shrine he pours the rays of Fame.

III.

Air II.

Goddeſs ! thy piercing eye explores
 The radiant range of Beauty's ſtores,
 The ſteep aſcent of pine-clad hills,
 The ſilver ſlope of falling rills ;
 Catches each lively-colour'd grace,
 The crimſon of the Wood-nymphs face,
 The verdure of the velvet lawn,
 The purple in the eaſtern dawn,
 Or all thoſe tints, which rang'd in vivid glow
 Mark the bold ſweep of the celeftial bow.

But

IV.

But chief she lifts her tuneful transports high,

Recitative.

When to her intellectual eye

The mental beauties rise in moral dignity :

The sacred zeal for Freedom's cause,

That fires the glowing Patriot's breast ;

The honest pride, that plumes the Hero's crest,

When for his country's aid the steel he draws ;

Or that, the calm yet active heat,

With which mild Genius warms the Sages heart,

To lift fair Science to a loftier seat,

Or stretch to ampler bounds the wide domain of art.

These, the best blossoms of the virtuous mind,

Air lil.

She culls with taste refin'd ;

From their ambrosial bloom

With bee-like skill she draws the rich perfume,

And blends the sweets they all convey

In the soft balm of her mellifluous lay.

V.

Is there a clime, where all these beauties rise

Recitative.

In one collected radiance to her Eyes?

Is there a plain, whose genial soil inhales

Glory's invigorating gales,

Her brightest beams where Emulation spreads,

Her kindliest dews where Science sheds,

Where ev'ry stream of Genius flows,

Where ev'ry flower of Virtue glows?

Thither the Muse exulting flies,

There she loudly cries —

Chorus I.

All Hail, All hail,

Majestic GRANTA! hail thy awful name

Dear to the Muse, to Liberty, to Fame.

VI.

Recitative.

You too, illustrious Train, she greets

Who first in these inspiring seats

Caught the bright beams of that ætherial fire,

Which now sublimely prompts you to aspire

To deeds of noblest note: whether to shield

Your country's liberties, your country's laws;

Or in Religion's hallow'd cause

To hurl the shafts of reason, and to wield

Those heav'nly-temper'd arms whose rapid force

Arrests base Falshood in her impious course,

And drives rebellious Vice indignant from the field.

And

VII.

And now she tunes her plausive song

Air IV.

To you her sage domestic throng;

Who here, at Learning's richest shrine,

Dispence to each ingenuous youth

The treasures of immortal truth,

And open Wisdom's golden mine.

Each youth inspir'd by your persuasive art,

Recitative.

Clasps the dear form of virtue to his heart ;

And feels in his transported soul

Enthusiastic raptures roll,

Gen'rous as those the Sons of Cecrops caught

In hoar Lycæum's shades from Plato's fire-clad thought.

VIII.

O GRANTA! on thy happy plain

Air V.

Still may these Attic glories reign :

Still mayst thou keep thy wonted state

In unaffected grandeur great ;

Great as at this illustrious hour,

Recitative.

When HE, whom GEORGE's well-weigh'd choice

And ALBION's gen'ral voice

Have lifted to the fairest heights of pow'r,

When

When He appears, and deigns to shine
 The leader of thy learned line ;
 And bids the verdure of thy olive bough
 Mid all his civic chaplets twine,
 And add fresh glories to his honor'd brow.

IX.

Air VI. Haste then, and amply o'er his head
 The gracefull foliage spread ;
 Meanwhile the Muse shall snatch the trump of Fame,
 And lift her swelling accents high,
 To tell the World that PELHAM's name
 Is dear to Learning as to Liberty.

Full Chorus. *The Muse shall snatch the trump of Fame,
 And lift her swelling accents high, .
 To tell the world that PELHAM's name
 Is dear to Learning as to Liberty.*

F I N I S.

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